

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN
THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, VESTRY HALL, CRANBROOK
ON THURSDAY 8TH JUNE 2017**

PRESENT: Cllr. Fletcher (in the Chair), Cllrs. Bunyan, Clifford, Cook, Fermor, Goodchild, Hall, Holmes and Warne. County & Borough Cllr. Holden, Borough Cllr. Hannam.

APOLOGIES: Cllrs. Fairweather, Hartley, Smith, Swann and Veitch.

The following statement was read out:

Members are required to declare any interests, dispensations, predetermination or lobbying on items on this agenda. Members are reminded that changes to the Register of Interests should be notified to the Clerk.

26/17: Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

Cllr. Fletcher Proposed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 18th May be adopted as a true record. Cllr. Warne pointed out a typographical error on page 6 which was corrected. The proposal was seconded by Cllr. Cook and agreed.

27/17: Car Parks Management:

Cllr. Fletcher confirmed that the first opportunity to terminate the lease with TWBC would be on the 1st August 2018. Twelve months' notice was required thus TWBC would require written notification of any intention to terminate the lease by 31st July 2017. Members had been provided with a paper produced by the Chairman detailing our experience of managing the car parks including expenditure incurred to date. A full discussion was had on the benefits of continuing to manage them. It was proposed by Cllr. Goodchild, seconded by Cllr. Fermor to accept the Chairman's recommendation to continue to manage Cranbrook car parks. There were 7 votes in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention. A further proposal from Cllr. Cook for the Environmental Management Committee to be delegated to produce a report on how the car parks should be managed in future, was put forward, this was seconded by Cllr. Goodchild and agreed. It was suggested that Policy and Resources evaluate the financial implications of any recommendations.

28/17: Chairman's Report:

In her absence Cllr. Fletcher read the Chairman's report in which she congratulated all those involved in 'Cranbrook Goes Nuts in May' which had been reported as a great success. She confirmed that she had submitted the responses to the South Eastern Rail Franchise Consultation as agreed. She had provided comments on the draft policies for the NDP and felt that others may like to as well.

We had been notified that the Cranbrook branch of Barclays was closing on the 8th September and been asked to submit our thoughts on how this would impact the community. Any suggestions should be forwarded to the Clerks so a response could be coordinated.

She advised that the Tunbridge Wells Over Fifties Forum existed to provide a voice for the older people of the Borough and encouraged anyone interested to contact them.

The agenda for the forthcoming TWBC Chairmans' meeting was read out Members were invited to let her know if they wished any issues raised.

Reports from Committees:

29/17: Policy & Resources:

Following a summary of the report of the meeting held on the 6th June, Cllr. Goodchild proposed adoption of the Minutes, seconded by Cllr. Clifford and agreed.

30/17: Planning & Preservation Management:

Cllr. Bunyan tabled the responses to the Local Plan Issues and Options and advised that individual comments could be submitted. She summarised the comments already submitted on the Draft Planning Framework for the Civic Complex which suggested that monies should be more equally distributed to better support the rural areas.

There were still two responses outstanding, the Interim Sustainability Appraisal and the Landscape Character Assessment SPD, an extension of time had been requested. Cllr. Warne's offer to compose responses to both and the Green Spaces Designation was gratefully accepted. Cllr. Bunyan suggested she seek clarification from TWBC on what information was required for the Green Spaces Designation.

31/17: Burials & Properties:

Cllr. Clifford advised the next meeting was a site meeting and was scheduled for 18th July. The Clerk confirmed the acquisition of the BT telephone boxes had been added to the Asset Register.

32/17: Environmental Management:

Cllr. Fletcher reminded Members that next meeting was scheduled for 20th June, it would be commencing at 6pm as it was also a site meeting.

33/17: Neighbourhood Plan:

Cllr. Warne advised that FERIA are in the process of writing their report which she hoped we would be in receipt of by the end of the month. The Steering Group are targeting groups and testing ideas from the Visioning events and the Design Forum. She confirmed that policy areas could be added to the Draft Policy Headings being devised by contacting the working group. Following a summary of the report of the meeting held on the 22nd May, Cllr. Warne proposed adoption of the Minutes, seconded by Cllr. Cook and agreed.

34/17: Cranbrook Conservation Area Committee:

Cllr. Hall gave a summary of the most recent meeting.

35/17: KALC:

Cllr. Fletcher spoke of the Councillors Conference on the 8th July and reminded Members to notify the Clerk if they wished to attend.

36/17: Cranbrook Tourism Group:

Cllr. Holmes advised the next meeting was scheduled for the 20th June.

37/17: Clerk's Report:

The Clerk reminded Members to advise the Deputy Clerk by the 15th June if they wished to attend the defibrillator training scheduled for 6th July.

38/17: Correspondence:

A letter had been received confirming that our internal auditor KCC, had completed their final audit visit for 2016/2017. Their testing identified that there were no issues raised and appropriate accounting records have been kept.

Items for Information:

39/17:

Cllr. Bunyan reminded Members that the Sissinghurst Flower Show was being held in Sissinghurst Primary School on 17th June at 2.30pm.

40/17:

KCC and Borough Cllr. Sean Holden gave an update on cabinet members within the County Council.

Speaking as a Borough Councillor, he was pleased that we had taken the decision to continue to manage the car parks as the Borough sees parking charges as an important income and if we had decided to hand them back, they would come here and ‘hoover’ money from the people of Cranbrook.

He was disappointed that the sweeps were still not on the Windmill, he would be chasing this with the cabinet member responsible, Cllr. Matthew Balfour.

41/17:

Borough Cllr. Hannam reported that he had met with a member of the planning department to discuss various issues including the self-build proposals on Common Road. He was told it was unlikely any attempt to stop development which is adjacent to existing development would be successful. He expressed his disappointment that small applications that are generally supported by local people are being turned down, yet bigger developments are going ahead because they are within a short walk of the village centre.

The meeting was closed.

Comments from Members of the Public included:

- A request for an update on the Community Centre
- The future of the public toilets in Cranbrook.
- Car parking facilities in Cranbrook and the possibility of introducing permit areas within the car parks.